

REMARKS:

In the foregoing amendments, claims 1 and 2 were canceled, claims 3-6 were amended, and claim 7 and 8 were added to the application. Accordingly, claims 3-8 are pending in the application at this time.

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being vague and indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is set forth on page 2 of the Official action. In the foregoing amendments, claims 1 and 2 were canceled and claims 3-6 were amended concerning the comments set forth in the Official action. For example, the word "type" was deleted from applicant's claims. In addition, the terms "upper and lower guides" were changed to "upper and lowered guide plates." Along these lines, claim 4 was amended by defining that the position regulator adjusts the position of the tapering block relative to the upper and lower guide plates.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 3-6, as amended above, particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests that the examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent No. 2,315,421 of Heaslet. In the foregoing amendments, claims 1 and 2 were canceled. Accordingly, this rejection is now moot.

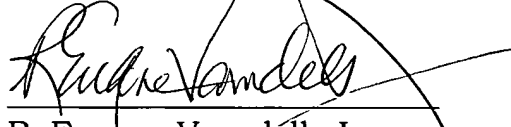
The Official action indicated that claims 3-6 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, set forth in this Official action. Since the foregoing amendments to claims 3-6 do this, a formal allowance of claims 3-6 is respectfully requested.

The teachings of Heaslet, which were cited against canceled claims 1 and 2, propose bell crank members 22 that have a tapered configuration, such as shown in Fig. 5. The members 22 are part of the frame in the crawler tractor proposed by Heaslet. New claims 7 and 8 define that the tapering block is arranged between the idler guide unit and the track frame, along the lines discussed on page 7, lines 4-14, of the present specification. In addition, these claims define that the tapering block moves relative to the track frame and adjusts a clearance between the idler unit and the track frame. Since the bell crank member 22 of Heaslet is part of the track frame, it cannot move relative to itself, and thus is distinguishable from the arrangement set forth in claim 7. For these reasons, applicant respectfully submits that new claims 7 and 8 are patently distinguishable from the teachings of Heaslet.

For all the foregoing reasons, a formal allowance of all pending claims 3-8 is respectfully requested. The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Official action mailed April 28, 2005. While it is believed that all the claims in this application are in condition for allowance, should the examiner have any comments or questions, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be telephoned at the below listed number to resolve any outstanding issues.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee therefor, as well as any other fees which become due, may be charged to our deposit account No. 22-0256.

Respectfully submitted,
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